



13281 U.S. PTO

012804

MS: PATENT APPLICATION

H-730-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: M. HAGIWARA et al
 Serial No. 10/023,660
 Filed: December 21, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2185
 Examiner: D. Butler
 For: DISK DRIVE AND COMPUTER



REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

MS: Patent Application
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 28, 2004

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 CFR §1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 10/023,660 filed on December 21, 2001, entitled DISK DRIVE AND COMPUTER, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.
2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

**CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION
 LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
 PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Basic Fee							\$ 770.00
Total Claims	31	-	20	=	11	x	18 = 198.00
Independent Claims	4	-	3	=	1	x	86 = 86.00
Total Filing Fee							\$1054.00

3. A credit card payment form including the amount of \$1054.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

5. New drawings are enclosed, twenty-eight (28) sheets, Figs. 1-31.

6. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293
Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846
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There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

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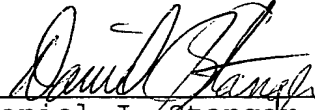
Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

7. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd. and Hitachi ULSI Systems Co., Ltd.

10. Priority of the following Japanese Applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 8-89613, filed April 11, 1996; and
No. 8-240401, filed September 11, 1996.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 10/023,660 as originally filed.



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Date: January 28, 2004